

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation or)	
)	ORDER OF
Suspension of the Educator)	
)	REVOCATION
Certificate of)	
)	
David M. Holder,)	
)	
Certificate 218603)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this certificate revocation or suspension matter on February 8, 2005. On December 1, 2004, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent David M. Holder a notice of his right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina educator certificate 218603 on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, immorality, conduct involving moral turpitude and evident unfitness for position for which employed. Said notice was sent by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail. Mr. Holder received the notice as evidenced by a postal receipt. Mr. Holder did not request a hearing within the time frame specified in the notice letter. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to revoke Mr. Holder's teaching certificate 218603.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Holder holds a valid South Carolina certificate and was a first year teacher during the 2004-2005 school year at Williston-Elko High School, Williston School District Number Twenty-Nine. Mr. Holder was placed on administrative leave on September 28, 2004, after a parent of a female student at the High School provided District administrators with sexually suggestive notes and cell

phone text messages sent to the student by Mr. Holder. When confronted with the information provided by the parent, Mr. Holder resigned on October 11, 2004.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (1991). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, immorality, conduct involving moral turpitude, and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that there is sufficient evidence to supports the decision to revoke Mr. Holder’s certificate 218603.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Paul M. Forrester

Paul M. Forrester

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
February 8, 2005